雲竜が棲むといわれるその国では
竜使いがおり雨をもたらすという――。

雲を殺した男

今市子

EYES COMICS

EYES COMICS
雲を殺した男
今市子
集英社

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壮 表 雨 雲 水 氷

IN A COUNTRY WITHOUT WATER, THERE EXISTED A RITUAL WHEREBY THE PEOPLE PRAYED FOR IT. IN THIS COUNTRY SAID TO BE INHABITED BY THE CLOUD DRAGON LEGEND SPEAKS OF A DRAGON TAMER WHO CAN BRING RAIN

PRESENTING A COLLECTION OF GRAND ORIENTAL FANTASIES INCLUDING "THE MAN WHO SLAYED THE CLOUDS," AND THREE OTHER STORIES

なれた地に
でしがあった。
この国では、竜使いがおり
というが……
他3編を収録した
ファンタジー傑作集。

■掲載作品■
失われた地に
西から来た竜
雲を殺した男
赤い旗

EYES COMICS

A5判

珠黎こうゆ
アリキーノ　1～3
魔夜峰央
ミッドナイトディメンション　全2巻
秋山たまよ
SHADE　全1巻
大雪師走
ものギャグ コタマくん　全1巻
三池ろむこ
アンゴラタイム　1
松山花子
小さく弱い人たちへ　1
桑原祐子
国語の時間 空明の調　全1巻
今　市子
岸辺の唄　全1巻
雲を殺した男　全1巻
今　市子 他
幻想ファンタノーvol.1 夢幻夜話
幻想ファンタジーvol.2 幻影夜話
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幻想ファンタノーvol.4 月宮夜話

B6判

東城麻美
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明智　抄
死神の惑星　全3巻
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臣士れい
クレセント ムーン　全3巻
Knight Flyer 黒騎鬼士物語　全1巻
かわみなみ
十二夜戦士　全1巻
服部あゆみ
夜叉少女　全1巻
天使失格　全1巻
あもい凛
@テンション//　全3巻
榎本ナリコ
ふしぎなソノ ガール　全1巻
四位広猫
影の森 月の舟　全2巻
黒川あづさ
甘い三角　全1巻
葛丸ありさ
夜明けのヴォイス　全1巻
永久保貴一
遊園 暴霊奇譚 紅蓮　全1巻
なかはら桃太
ラノンエトーパブリシティ　全2巻
有栖川るい
ウロボロスの環　全1巻
氷栗　優
ゴーバス カラット 銀盤の覚醒　全4巻
細倉ゆたか
うす氷　全1巻
後藤　星
アールグレイ伝の優雅な生活　全2巻
中川勝海
乗鹿 ひめまろ　1
高橋由紀
ヘルソナ　全1巻
M－ミトル－　全1巻
遠野麻紀
新世界交響楽　全1巻
桑原祐子
西の月 東の太陽　全3巻
姫木薫理
ぴーひょろ一家と光の向こう　全1巻
ぴーひょろ一家20XX　1～2
伊藤結花理
月蝕光　全1巻
松川祐里子
月下降臨　全2巻
垣野内成美
恋水道　全4巻
羽音こうき
昇 少年 燃　1
江ノ本瞳
ジェハキム ゲート　全1巻
橘　皆無
Tau　全1巻
霧島珠樹
神父のしっぽ　全1巻

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くもをころしたおとこ

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★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

失われた岸辺
うしなわれたきしべ
The Lost Shore

KUMO WO KOROSHITA OTOKO
BY IMA ICHIKO

- CHAPTER 1 -

SCANLATED BY OTOME SCANS

RAW PROVIDER: DAWN FUN
TRANSLATOR: JUNE
PROOFREADER: MESANEHARA
CLEANER: SUPERSLEUTHER
TYPESETTER: CHEE
QC: SUPERSLEUTHER

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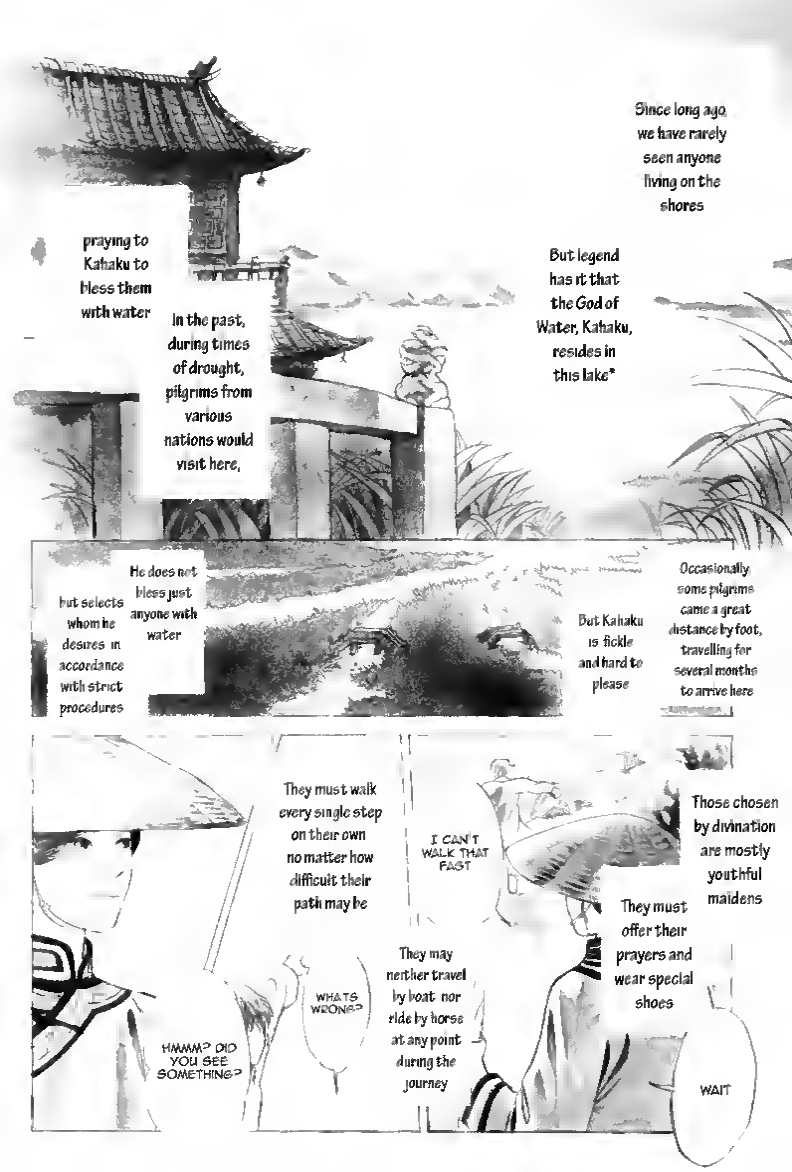
KUMO WO KOROSHITA OTOKO
BY IMA ICHIKO

– CHAPTER 1 –

THIS IS A FAN SCANLATION BY OTOME SCANS. PLEASE SUPPOOT THE MANGAKA BY BUYING THIS VOLUME WHEN IT BECOMES LICENSED IN YOUR COUNTRY

READ THIS CHAPTER IN HIGH QUALITY AT BATOTO NET

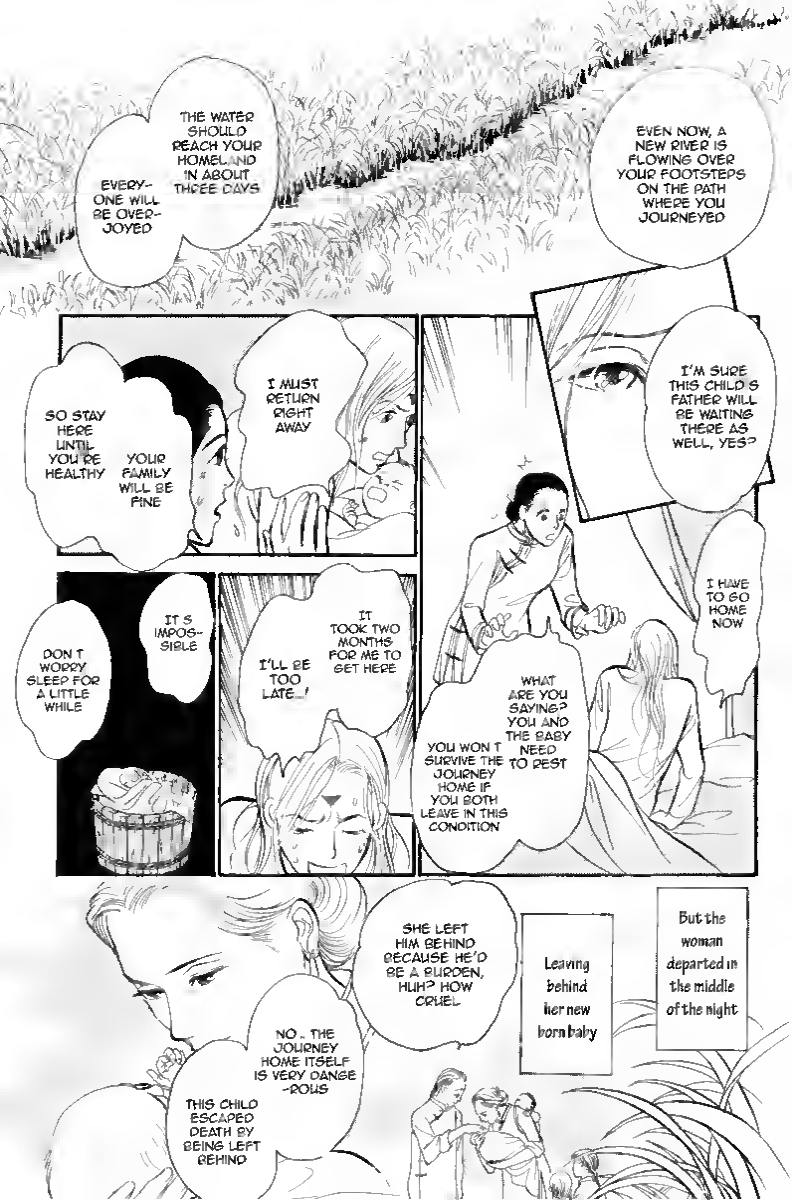
say hi to us at http://otomescans.wordpress.com
(also we are always recruiting.
more peeps = more releases duh)


Since long ago, we have rarely seen anyone living on the shores
But legend has it that the God of Water, Kahaku, resides in this lake*
praying to Kahaku to bless them with water
In the past, during times of drought, pilgrims from various nations would visit here,
but selects whom he desires in accordance with strict procedures
He does not bless just anyone with water
But Kahaku is fickle and hard to please
Occasionally some pilgrims came a great distance by foot, travelling for several months to arrive here
They must walk every single step on their own no matter how difficult their path may be
I CAN'T WALK THAT FAST
Those chosen by divination are mostly youthful maidens
They must offer their prayers and wear special shoes
They may neither travel by boat nor ride by horse at any point during the journey
WHAT'S WRONG?
HMMM? DID YOU SEE SOMETHING?
WAIT

*T/N: KAHAKU (河伯) IS THE GOD OF THE YELLOW RIVER FROM CHINESE MYTHOLOGY

Even after performing such grueling ritual, there is no guarantee that Kahaku will grant her request
WE'VE ARRIVED, HAVEN'T WE?
FINALLY..
IS THAT SUIKO?
and the number of people who know the correct etiquette of the ritual has decreased
That is why, at present, the water prayer ritual has fallen completely out of favor
SPLASH!
HEEEYY, LET'S GO LOOK
WHAT AN AUSPICIOUS OCCASION
THE WATER PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED!
HOW RARE. IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE WATER PRAYERS ARE BEING ANSWERED
THE LAKE IS RISING
WHOOOOOSH
KAHAKU-SAMA IS DANCING

IT'S HEADING TO THE NORTH
LOOK, THE WATER IS FLOWING WITH SUCH FORCE
IT'S BEEN SEVERAL YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN THIS
WELL DONE YOUR PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED!
H..NG IN THERE! YOUR PRAYERS FOR WATER WERE GRANTED
YOU DID WELL
AH
...WHERE'S THAT CHILD? HE JOINED ME IN THE MIDDLE OF MY JOURNEY HE WAS JUST HERE
THE LITTLE BOY? THAT WAS K..H..KU INCARNATE
OH MY
YOUNG LADY!
WAAAHHH
WAAAHHH
WAAAHHH
IT'S A BOY. YOU DID WELL, WALKING ALL THE WAY HERE WHILST BEARING A CHILD
HOW DID IT GO?
...HAVE MY PRAYERS BEEN ANSWERED?
WAAHHH
YES, THEY WERE
GO AND HAVE A LOOK TOMORROW


EVERY-ONE WILL BE OVER-JOYED
THE WATER SHOULD REACH YOUR HOME IN ABOUT THREE DAYS
EVEN NOW, A NEW RIVER IS FLOWING OVER YOUR FOOTSTEPS ON THE PATH WHERE YOU JOURNEYED
SO STAY HERE UNTIL YOU'RE HEALTHY
YOUR FAMILY WILL BE FINE
I MUST RETURN RIGHT AWAY
I'M SURE THIS CHILD'S FATHER WILL BE WAITING THERE AS WELL, YES?
I HAVE TO GO HOME NOW
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU AND THE BABY NEED TO REST
YOU WON'T SURVIVE THE JOURNEY HOME IF YOU BOTH LEAVE IN THIS CONDITION
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE
DON'T WORRY SLEEP FOR A LITTLE WHILE
IT TOOK TWO MONTHS FOR ME TO GET HERE
I'LL BE TOO LATE...!
But the woman departed in the middle of the night
Leaving behind her new born baby
SHE LEFT HIM BEHIND BECAUSE HE'D BE A BURDEN, HUH? HOW CRUEL
NO.. THE JOURNEY HOME ITSELF IS VERY DANGE-ROUS
THIS CHILD ESCAPED DEATH BY BEING LEFT BEHIND

When we gaze upon rivers extending to the East, West South and North
we think of the pilgrims' homelands at the water's end
Those who fail remain in Suiko never to return to their homeland
But there are also those who fall in love with Suiko and stay even after their prayers are answered
Thus, Kahaku sends them peacefully home along the very path that they struggled on to arrive here
It is said that most of the time pilgrims whose prayers are answered return home along the newly formed river
The river's death came all too quickly
CAN'T YOU EVEN TAKE CARE OF YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER BY YOURSELF?
WAAAAHHH
MOOO-OMM
One day another river dried up...
WAAHHH
WAAAAHH
MOM, JINGHUA'S CRYING
Among these rivers there are those that have withered and dried
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED HERE
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THEY NEED TO RETURN THE WATER TO KAHAKU
THE PEOPLE WHO USED TO LIVE HERE HAVE ALL LEFT

That too, took place long long ago
GLANCE
KYAAAAAAA
HM?
DID YOU HEAR THAT JUST NOW?
JINSHUA! GET BACK TO WORK
GOTCHA!
WHOOSH
HEY!
IF YOU GUYS DON'T WANNA WORK GO HOME AND SLEEP!
AH MANY PEOPLE PASS THROUGH THIS PLACE
SO IT'S GOTTEN QUITE DANGER -OUS
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT HELPING DON'T GET INVOLVED
KYAAAAAA!
OVER THERE!
IT'S A HIGHWAY ROBBERY!

Ne-ehh
KYAAAA
HEY, YOU FARMERS!
ARE YOU ALL STUPID!? DON'T JUST STAND THERE AND WATCH, HELP US!
BUT
LEAVE IT
A FARMER CAN'T INJURE HIS HANDS
I'VE CONSIDERED SAYING THIS EARLIER, BUT YOU HAVE..
WAAA
HM?
AH...
A WATER PRAYER
GYAAAA
GET OUTTA MY WAY!

——MISS! NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO P*SS OUT!
SLUMP
WAAA
THANKS!
I'LL LEAVE THE REST OF THEM TO YOU
HUH...?
NICE MOVES, FARM -HAND
AH
SHIT, HE'S GETTING AWAY
DAMN. THIS IS WHY I TOLD YOU TO KILL THE HORSE FIRST
NO WAY IT'D BE A HUGE WASTE TO KILL SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WHITE HORSE
WHO WAS THAT GUY?
YOU BASTARD~ HOW DARE YOU..!
WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT A WATER PRAYER??

IT'S NOTHING
I WAS JUST SAYING THAT SHE WAS WEARING WATER PRAYER ROBES
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT WERE YOU ABOUT TO SAY?
THAT YOU SEEM TO BE ATTRACTED TO DANGER
SO TAKE CARE
THESE GUYS MIGHT BRING THEIR FRIENDS AND COME BACK AGAIN
SHOULD WE KILL AND BURY THEM?
HEY YOU GOT ANY FAMILY? ANY KIDS?
N_
NO
YEN
TRY STARTING ONE
IT MIGHT CHANGE YOUR OUTLOOK ON LIFE
AA-AHH HE JUST CAME BY AND TRAMPLED ON EVERYTHING WITH THAT HORSE
HALF OF WHAT WE PLANTED WILL BE NO GOOD BY TOMORROW
WARRIORS ARE ALL TROUBLEMAKERS
THEY WERE PROBABLY ON THEIR WAY OUT OF THE TOWN

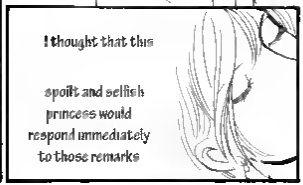
IT IS ASTOUNDING THAT EVEN AFTER HUNDREDS OF YEARS THIS PLACE HAS YET TO BE DEFEATED BY OUTSIDE INVADERS
——NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I COME HERE I AM ALWAYS AWED BY ITS BEAUTY WATER IS PLENTIFUL AND TRADE IS THRIVING
I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE THAT THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF CHOUJOU AND KOU'UN HAVE RECENTLY FORMED AN ALLIANCE.
THIS MEANS THAT THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO INVADE SUIKO WHENEVER THEY WANT
.....
FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS IT IS BY THE GRACE OF KAHAKU'S DIVINE PROTECTION
KAHAKU?
HAHAHA. ONE OF THESE DAYS THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER SHOULD BE DREDGED AND EXAMINED
PERHAPS, HE HAS ALREADY TURNED INTO BONES
GENERAL GUO, DID YOU NOT COME HERE TO ENJOY THE SIGHTS WITH YOUR FAMILY?
I SAY THIS AS A FRIEND AS ONE WHO CHERISHES SUIKO FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART
SUIKO POSSESSES NEITHER A GOVERNMENT NOR AN ARMY
INSTEAD WE HAVE A DIVINE PACT WITH KAHAKU
YOU GIRLS CERTAINLY LOVE YOUR FORTUNE TELLING, DON'T YOU. MY DAUGHTER WAS ALSO INFATUATED WITH RAIN PRAYER INCANTATIONS
GENERAL
SWEAR YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO KING KUMTA AND BECOME A TERRITORY OF MONRIN
IF YOU DO, I WILL HAVE MY ARMIES STATIONED HERE AND SUIKO WILL BE PROTECTED FROM INVADERS

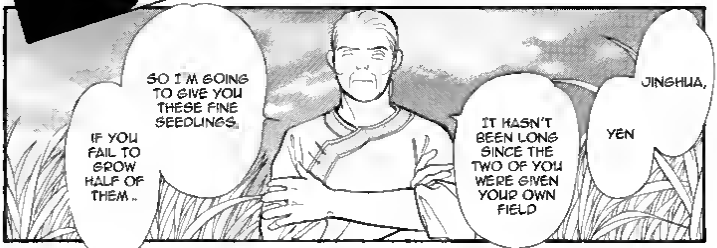
YOU SAVAGE!
YOU CAN'T COMPREHEND ANYTHING AT ALL WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS REMOTELY SUPERNATURAL!
Fortune telling Kahaku there!
THIS IS GOING NOWHERE! I MIGHT AS WELL JUST KILL THAT ORACLE OF YOURS INSTEAD OF NEGOTIATING WITH HER!
IT'S A WATER PRAYER NOT A RAIN PRAYER
BUT YOUR DAUGHTER IS QUITE THE PRAG-MATIST
SHE INTENDS TO STRIKE A DEAL WITH KAHAKU BEFORE HER FATHER DOES
UM... THE PRINCESS HAS NOT ARRIVED YET
SHE'LL BE HELPFUL IN THIS SITUATION
CALL ORISSA! THIS IS HER AREA OF EXPERTISE
DOES SHE INTEND ON WALKING ALL THE WAY HERE?
I'VE HEARD NOTHING OF THIS! THEN WHERE DID SHE SLEEP LAST NIGHT!?
WHAT!?
MISS!
MY LORD, THE PRINCESS HAS ARRIVED—
SHE'S JUST UNCONSCIOUS, WE WERE ATTACKED BY BANDITS ALONG THE WAY...
AHH...
I TOLD HER THAT WALKING WAS DANGEROUS
DID YOU SAY BANDITS!?

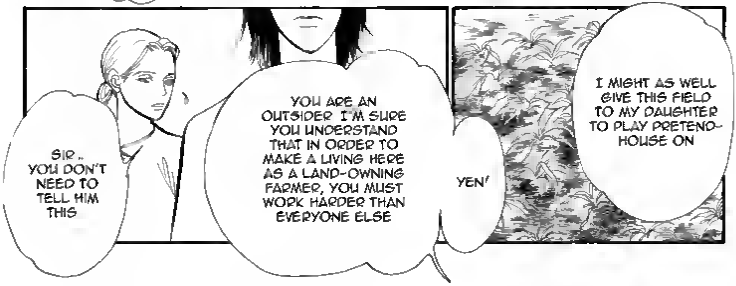
SLAP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
HOW AWFUL! YOU DARE...
PUT ME ON THIS DAMN HORSE!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!?
THERE WAS ONLY A LITTLE BIT LEFT TO GO THIS TIME..
THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL WON'T SUCCEED UNLESS I WALK TO THE END WITH MY OWN TWO FEET!
I own horse?
OH MY IS THAT WHY YOUR ARRIVAL WAS DELAYED?
IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT I FAILED AGAIN
DON'T WORRY, KENSOU
IF YOU DIDN T FOLLOW HER, SHE WOULD HAVE ENDED UP BEING ROBBED BARE BY THOSE BANDITS AND SOLD OFF SOMEWHERE
SHE TAKES IT FOR GRANTED THAT SHE'D BE SAVED NO MATTER WHAT SITUATION SHE S IN
RESIDES, ISN T THAT SOMETHING PEOPLE ONLY DO WHEN THEY RE REALLY DESPERATE?
EVEN WITHOUT THE WATER PRAYERS, MONPIN CAN EASILY DRAW AS MUCH WATER AS IT WANTS FROM THE SURROUNDING TOWNS
AGAIN WITH THE WATER PRAYER
WHY DOES SHE EVEN BELIEVE IN SUCH SUPERSTITION?

She really might have succeeded if she made it just a little further
But she can be surprisingly stubborn
KENSOU
I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU

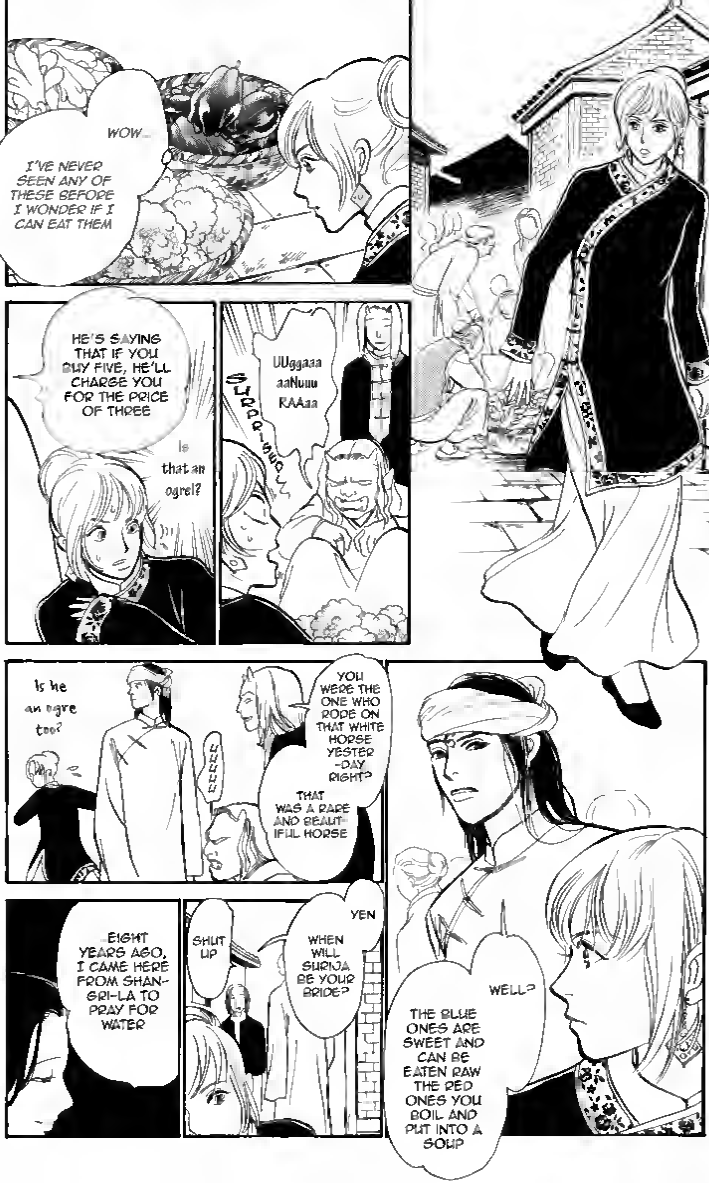
SHE'S ALWAYS LIKED TO PRETEND THAT SHE IS UNHAPPY AND SURROUNDED BY MISFORTUNE
I'VE SERVED AS HER GUARDIAN SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD I AM USED TO IT


I thought that this spoilt and selfish princess would respond immediately to those remarks


SO I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THESE FINE SEEDLINGS.
IF YOU FAIL TO GROW HALF OF THEM..
JINGHUA, YEN
IT HASN'T BEEN LONG SINCE THE TWO OF YOU WERE GIVEN YOUR OWN FIELD


SIR.. YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL HIM THIS
YOU ARE AN OUTSIDER I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE A LIVING HERE AS A LAND-OWNING FARMER, YOU MUST WORK HARDER THAN EVERYONE ELSE
YEN'
I MIGHT AS WELL GIVE THIS FIELD TO MY DAUGHTER TO PLAY PRETEND HOUSE ON

DAMN
OF COURSE I CHOSE TO LIVE LIFE OF A FARMER
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YOU TOO, JINGHUA! DO YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE A MISFIT WHO'S NOT CUT OUT FOR WORK IN THE FIELDS!?
BEING SKILLED AT SWORD-PLAY IS A FINE THING!
BUT THIS IS FIELDWORK AND THIS IS THE LAND THAT YOU WILL LIVE OFF OF PRACTICE AFTER YOU BECOME AN EXPERIENCED FARMER!
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT THE YOUNGEST SON IS UNABLE TO INHERIT THE FAMILY'S FIELDS
BUT HE FINALLY DECIDED TO SETTLE DOWN HERE
ALL CHILDREN BORN IN SUIKO ARE GIFTS FROM KAHAKU
JINGHUA IS OUR CHILD
—BUT IS THAT TRULY HIS FATE?
ISN'T HE MORE SUITED TO GO OUT INTO THE WORLD?
THAT'S RIGHT NO MATTER HOW DIFFERENT HE MAY APPEAR, HE'S STILL MY SON


WOW...
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OF THESE BEFORE I WONDER IF I CAN EAT THEM
HE'S SAYING THAT IF YOU BUY FIVE, HE'LL CHARGE YOU FOR THE PRICE OF THREE
Is that an ogre!?
UUggaaa aaNuuu KAAaa
SUROJA-DUA...
Is he an ogre too?
UHUH
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO RODE ON THAT WHITE HORSE YESTER-DAY, RIGHT?
THAT WAS A RARE AND BEAUTIFUL HORSE
EIGHT YEARS AGO, I CAME HERE FROM SHANGRI-LA TO PRAY FOR WATER
SHUT UP
YEN
WHEN WILL SUROJA BE YOUR BRIDE?
WELL?
THE BLUE ONES ARE SWEET AND CAN BE EATEN RAW THE RED ONES YOU BOIL AND PUT INTO A SOUP

I HAVEN'T RETURNED TO MY HOMELAND IN OVER TEN YEARS
I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY PARENTS, BUT IT TAKES A MONTH TO GET BACK
IT'S UNFORTUNATE BUT I CAN'T RETURN HOME
OH, YOU FAILED TOO? YOU'RE ONE OF US!
WHAT DID YOU DO?
AHHH
OH MY, I ACTUALLY SET OUT RIDING ON A HORSE
BUT ALONG THE WAY, I ACCIDENTALLY RODE ON A BOAT, SO I FAILED
I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE PROPER RULES OF THE RITUAL WERE
AT LEAST I MANAGED TO FIND A JOB AND HUSBAND HERE
AHH OVER HERE JINGHUA!
IF YOU WANT TO LEARN THE PROPER ETIQUETTE FOR THE WATER PRAYER, YOU SHOULD VISIT THE ORACLE
EVERYONE HERE TREATS US KINDLY
THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY
AAHH
YOU MADE IT OUT SAFELY
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO SEND SUBIJA OFF
SUBIJA
I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE
AH!
THAT GUY FROM YESTERDAY...

EH?
OH MY...
I'M SORRY, THE TATTOO ON YOUR FOREHEAD LOOKED SIMILAR TO THAT OF A FRIEND'S...
I SHUDDER AT THE THOUGHT OF HAVING AN OGRE GIVE ME A TATTOO
THAT'S NOT AN OGRE'S MARK OF PROTECTION
KENSOU'S TATTOO IS ACTUALLY A TRAVELLER'S CHARM
BUT SAY, DOES IT HAPPEN TO BEAR ANY SPECIAL MEANING?
NAH, THIS IS JUST FOR SHOW
YOUR FOREHEAD IS SO PLAIN THAT THEY HAD TO PUT IT THERE TO TELL IT APART FROM THE OTHERS
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO PERFORM THE WATER PRAYER?
HMMM
DID YOU FAIL?
KEEP ON TRYING

AS FAR AS I KNOW, NO LESS THAN TEN MEN HAVE ALSO PERFORMED THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL WITHIN THE LAST 300 YEARS
WOULDN'T THEY INCUR DIVINE PUNISH-MENT BY DOING THAT!?
LIKE THEIR HARD-EARNED WATER DRYING UP RIGHT AWAY OR SOME-THING
THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE. PREGNANT WOMEN HAVE BEEN CHOSEN EVEN ELDERLY WOMEN
NOT JUST ANYONE CAN DO IT, RIGHT?
ONLY PURE MAIDENS SELECTED BY GOD THROUGH DIVINATION CAN
UTILIZING DIVINATION ONLY SERVES TO LOCATE SUCH PERSONS MORE ACCURATELY BUT
THIS IS A RITUAL THAT ANYONE CAN PER-FORM
AND THERE ARE EVEN THOSE WHO FAITHFULLY FOLLOW ALL OF THE RITU-ALS RULES AND YET ARE IGNORED BY KAHAKU
ON THE OTHER HAND THERE ARE ALSO THOSE WHO SUCCEED
WHAT DID THEY DO!? WHAT DID THEY DO THAT WAS SO WRONG?
THERE HAVE SOME BEEN CASES WHERE PEOPLE ANGERED KAHAKU
HMM, ALSO
THE WATER ALSO DRIES UP IF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE DIS-APPEAR
KAHAKU MOURNED THE DEATH OF THESE WOMEN AND DRIED UP EVERY SPRING AND RIVER
AND THE WOMEN WHO HAD SUCCEEDED AT THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL THREW THEMSELVES INTO THE RIVER TO ES-CAPE FROM THE BARBARIANS BUT DROWNED INSTEAD
ACCORDING TO A STORY THAT I HEARD A GROUP OF BARBARIANS ATTACKED A TOWN..
LIM...

OH THAT'S RIGHT.
IF THERE'S SOMETHING THAT YOU WANT TO KNOW YOU SHOULD ASK SURIJA
BUT
SHE SUCCEEDED IN DOING THE RITUAL BEFORE
I JUST DID AS I WAS TOLD ALL I DID WAS WALK WITHOUT RIDING A HORSE OR BOAT
I'M JUST AN ORPHAN WHO WAS BOUGHT WITH MONEY
IN FACT, I WASN'T EVEN CHOSEN BY DIVINATION
KAHAKU LIKES BEAUTIFUL WOMEN
I STILL DON'T GET IT HOW DOES HE SELECT WHO WILL SUCCEED?
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT
KAHAKU WILL TAKE THE FORM OF A LITTLE BOY
AT LEAST WE KNOW ONE THING
AND, WITHOUT FAIL, HE WILL JOIN YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR JOURNEY AS A COMPANION

WHY IS EVERYONE IN THIS TOWN SO CALM?
THERE ARE UN-CHAINED OGRES WALKING AROUND!
MOTHER TOLD ME THAT OGRES ATTACK AND EAT PEOPLE!
I DON'T LIKE STEALING RIDES EITHER
I DO LIKE ANIMALS BUT I HATE THAT HORSE
IT ONLY EVER SCREAMS "SHAMELESS NOUVEAU RICHE" IT'S SO EMBA-RRASSING!
YOU ARE GENERAL GUO'S DAUGH-TER, YOU KNOW
DO YOU HATE ANIMALS, PRINCESS?
YOU'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN AN OGRE UNTIL NOW. ALL BECAUSE KING KUMTA EXPELLED THE OGRES FROM HIS TOWNS
THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF OGRES SOME LOOK LIKE HUMANS AND SOME LOOK LIKE ANIMALS
PRECISELY FATHER IS A CRASS MATERIALIST WHO ONLY CARES ABOUT MONEY
THAT HORSE WAS PROBABLY JUST SOME CORRUPT MERCHANT'S GIFT TO THE KING
THOSE WORDS HURT, DON'T THEY? SHIROGANE AND KOGANE...
THESE TWO ARE PROUD WILD HORSES THAT LIVED IN THE DESERT
THAT HORSE DOESN'T SUIT YOU EITHER, KENSOU!
AAHH, THAT MAKES ME WANNA PUKE! YOU KEEP GETTING IN THE WAY OF MY WATER PRAYER RITUALS!
A KNIGHT ON A WHITE HORSE COMING TO SAVE THE PRINCESS BEING AT-TACKED BY BANDITS?
THE FIRST TIME, I HAD A HEATSTROKE AND COL-LAPSED, SO YOU CARRIED ME AND I FAILED
THE SE-COND TIME I COULDN'T TAKE WALKING IN THOSE SHOES
SO I BOR-ROWED YOUR SHOES AND I FAILED

ISN'T THAT ALL DUE TO YOUR WEAK WILL AND INABILITY TO RESEARCH PRINCESS?
YOU CAN OUTWIT AND IMPRESS FATHER, AND YET YOU CAN'T EVEN HELP ME OUT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'RE ALWAYS GETTING IN MY WAY, AREN'T YOU!?
Ah Damn
THE THIRD TIME, YOU GOT THE ROADS WRONG. SO WE CROSSED A RIVER BY BOAT AND I FAILED
And the Fourth time you chased me on a horse and put me on it and I failed
I REALIZED IT THE MOMENT I CAME TO SUIIKO FOR THE FIRST TIME
THAT THIS IS WHAT REAL WATER IS
MONRIN NEEDS THIS BEAUTIFUL, ORGANIC WATER
WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES, I CAN PICTURE IT IN MY MIND
A PURE, UNSOILED RIVER FLOWING TOWARDS ME LIKE A WHITE CLOTH
THE WAY YOU SAY "PRINCESS" IS INCREDIBLY SARCASTIC
ORISSA-SAMA
THAT'S NOT REAL WATER!
MONRIN ALREADY HAS WATER. IT DRAWS IT FROM KOKUSUI BY AN AQUEDUCT
I DON'T WANT YOU TO PERFORM THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
HALF-HEARTEDLY OR JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT TO PROVOKE YOUR FATHER
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO DIE WITHOUT EVEN BEING ABLE TO CHOOSE WHICH WATER THEY WANT
THERE IS NO FAKE OR REAL WATER FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE DESPERATE AND FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES
REAL WATER? ORGANIC WATER?

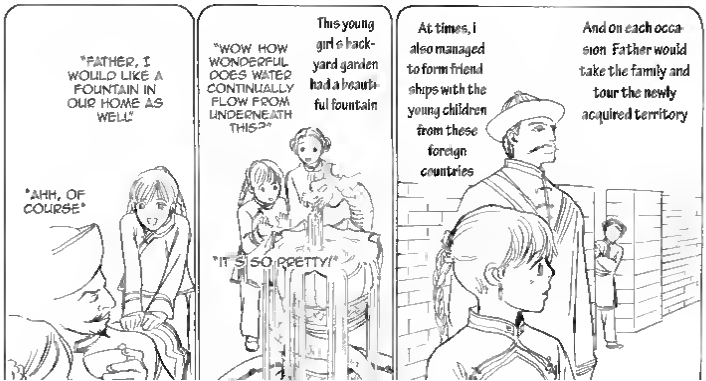
What
12
SAYING SUCH EXTRAVAGANT THINGS..!
I thought you, of all people, would understand
BANG
CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP
It only takes a day of walking to get to Suiko! I'll do it over and over again as many times as I need to!
ORISSA!
WAIT! DON'T GO BY YOURSELF!
STARE
I PROBABLY DIDN'T USE THE CORRECT WORDS
THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SHOW HIM WITH ACTIONS
OH
IT'S THE HORSE FROM YESTERDAY!
I HEARD THAT THAT GIRL IS THE DAUGHTER OF MONRIN'S GENERAL GUO
LET'S KIDNAP HER AND RANSOM HER OFF
KYA!
WHOA THERE..
GET OFF THAT HORSE AND COME WITH US, YOUNG LADY

Neigh
Neigh
KYAAA
SLIDE
STOP IT!
DAMN! SHE WENT OFF THE ROAD
IF SHE MAKES IT OUT TO THE DESERT SHE CAN GET AWAY
HEY, TAKE CARE OF THE HORSE FIRST.
AH!
WHOA..
WHAT IS THIS?
...QUICK-SAND!
SLI—S
UWAAAAH!
HELP US!

ORISSA!
...KENSOU!
ORISSA!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!? LET GO OF ME!
IT'S TOO LATE! SHE'S NOT THERE
LET GO OF ME!
SHE'S STILL ALIVE I CAN STILL SAVE HER!
IT'S NO USE! THE QUICKSAND IS TOO STRONG

And grew bigger and bigger in size

Monrin continued to conquer neighboring nations one after the other

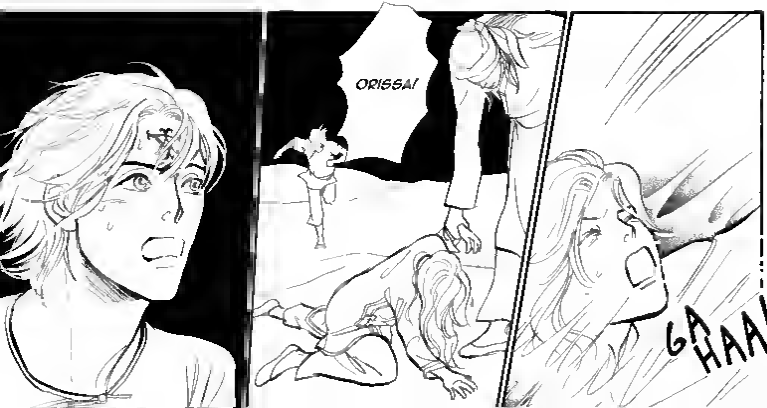

"FATHER, I WOULD LIKE A FOUNTAIN IN OUR HOME AS WELL"
"AHH, OF COURSE"
"WOW HOW WONDERFUL DOES WATER CONTINUALLY FLOW FROM UNDERNEATH THIS?"
"IT'S SO PRETTY!"
This young girl's backyard garden had a beautiful fountain
At times, I also managed to form friendships with the young children from these foreign countries
And on each occasion Father would take the family and tour the newly acquired territory

"FATHER, I DIDN'T WANT THIS"
"NO... I DIDN'T WANT THIS"
"GOOD!"
No, this wasn't...
This wasn't what I wanted
"HERE YOU ARE, ORISSA. YOUR VERY OWN FOUNTAIN."

I don't want to steal anymore

This time I want to be the one that gives everyone water

I don't want water that was stolen from someone



YOU IDIOT!
YOU ALL YOU DO IS BRING ME TROUBLE!
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME...!?
AN OUTSIDER LIKE MYSELF HAS FINALLY OBTAINED THIS DECENT LIFE-STYLE, AND YET, YOU... -YOU...
IF YOU WERE TO DIE THE GENERAL WOULD KILL ME!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? WE'RE GOING HOME!
RI... RIGHT!
I'M SORRY
KENSOU
I'M GRATE-FUL FOR YOUR HELP
ARE... ARE YOU AN OGRE?

WOOOOSHH
YES..
NO WONDER YOU POSSESS SUCH STRENGTH
THANK YOU I'LL REPAY THIS DEBT ONE DAY
ALL OF THIS NONSENSE ABOUT OGRES WATER PRAYER RITUALS, AND KAHAKU!
IT'S ALL JUST LOCAL SUPERSTITION!
OGRES ARE BASICALLY HUMANS ON THE INSIDE, THEIR OUTER APPEARANCES ARE JUST A LITTLE DIFFERENT, THAT'S ALL
BESIDES THAT SILLY WATER PRAYER RITUAL HAS ABSOLUTELY NO EFFECT AT ALL!
WE'VE TRIED IT IN THE PAST
YOU TRIED THE RITUALS AT MONRIN TOO!?
IT DIDN'T WORK NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE TRIED
BUT WE SOLVED OUR PROBLEMS BY DRAWING WATER THROUGH AQUEDUCTS FROM NEARBY COUNTRIES
WE EVEN TRIED SENDING SEVERAL SLAVE WOMEN TO CARRY OUT KAHAKU'S WATER RITUAL
BUT EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM FAILED! IN THE END IT WAS HOCUM-POCUM
SURI-JA
HAS YEN EVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT WHERE HE'S FROM?
NO,
HE WAS RAISED IN SHISEN BUT EVEN HE HAS NO IDEA WHERE HE'S FROM

...JINGHUA, YOUR STYLE OF SWORD-PLAY IS POWERFUL AND LIVELY
SO, SURIJA, WHAT DO YOU FIND ATTRACTIVE ABOUT YEN?
BUT YEN'S STYLE IS SOMBER AND SO ELEGANT
I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF FASCINATED BY IT
BUT THE REASON FOR THAT IS SURELY...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, JINGHUA?
DO YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT WHERE YOU CAME FROM?
I DO, BUT
NOBODY LIVES THERE ANYMORE
BUT I'M SURE THEY'RE STILL ALIVE THEY JUST MOVED SOMEWHERE ELSE
BECAUSE HE TOO POSSESSES A DRIED AND BARREN RIVER INSIDE OF HIM
DANGER IS DRAWING NEAR
JUST AS I HAD FEARED!
DOES GENERAL GUO INTEND TO SEND HIS ARMIES INTO SUIKO?
RATTLE
I SEE
IT IS INEVITABLE
MONRIN HAS ALWAYS RECOGNIZED SUIKO'S AUTONOMY..
WHAT CAN WE DO TO DRIVE BACK THE GENERAL?

ALL WE CAN DO IS GRADUALLY MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUIKO AND MONRIN
KNOCK KNOCK
ORACLE
OH, YOU AGAIN
HOW IS THE YOUNG PRINCESS FARING?
MY MY
IT APPEARS THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY YOU
NOT THAN THE PRINCESS,
WHO IS ACTUALLY MOST INTER-ESTED IN THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
PLEASE TELL ME
WHAT IS THE DIFF-ERENCE BETWEEN
THAT GIRL SURIJA AND OUR PRINCESS?
WITHIN THAT YOUNG GIRL LIES A BEAUTI-FUL SPRING IT WAS CULTIVATED WITHIN HER EVER SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD
YOUR PRINCESS POSSESSES THE INNATE ABILITY TO SUCCEED AT THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL

I SEE... MONRIN INCURRED KAHAKU'S WRATH IN THE PAST...
THUS ORISSA CANNOT SUCCEED AT THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
HM... I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT
...PERHAPS IT IS BECAUSE MONRIN IS A CURSED NATION
BUT THE PRINCESS HAS AN OBSTACLE STANDING IN HER PATH
IF THERE IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT BETWEEN HER AND SURIJA,
THIS IS THE MARK OF A SLAVE
GUO ORDERED OUR CLAN'S WOMEN OUT TO PERFORM THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
THEY HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO OBEY AS THEIR FAMILIES HAD BEEN TAKEN
LONG AGO, MY HOMELAND WAS ATTACKED AND DESTROYED BY MONRIN
"Where is my husband? My father and mother?"
AT FIRST IT SUCCEEDED, BUT
SLOWLY GUO'S METHOD PROVOKED KAHAKU'S TO ANGER
ONE YEAR, THERE WAS A DEVASTATING DROUGHT

IT APPEARS THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU TO EMBARK ON A JOURNEY
I BESTOW UPON YOU THIS CHARM
YOUR HEART IS SCREAMING IN ITS ETERNAL THIRST FOR WATER
"They were killed weren't they? All because I returned too late ..."
WHEN HER STRENGTH GAVE OUT AND SHE DIED THE RIVER IMMEDIATELY DRIED UP
AND WITH THIS, YOU ARE FREE..
ORACLE,
PLEASE TELL ME WHERE SURIJA RESIDES. I HAVE SOMETHING I WOULD LIKE TO ASK HER...
THAT I CANNOT DO
THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN GAIN FROM SURIJA
PLEASE
I NEED HER
YOU MUST NOT MISUNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MUST
I CAN -NOT,

SLASH!
..ORACLE? I BROUGHT VEGETABLES
ROLL
ROLL
ORACLE..!
COME HERE!
AAAAAA!
"If all goes according to plan, I shall free you from your status as slave You can flee to wherever your heart desires"
"And then kill her"
If their religious leader were to die, Suiko would come to rely upon King Kumta"
"Kensou Use Onssa to find out where the Oracle lives"

THE ORACLE IS IN TROUBLE!
ORACLE!
GOOD THING THAT MAN DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO KILL AN OGRE
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY SURIJA HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED
WHERE IS THAT PRINCESS STAYING?
Maica, Jonathan went up with him. You doesn't is here!
WHO WAS HE?
THE GUARDIAN OF THAT PRINCESS FROM MONBIN HIS NAME IS KENSOU
KENSOU!
WH-
WHAT'S WRONG, KENSOU?
I MURDERED THE ORACLE
AAAHH!
LET GO OF ME!
I'M GOING TO ESCAPE. DON'T FOLLOW ME
COME, SHIROGANE
ORISSA,
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT A TRUE WATER PRAYER RITUAL IS
WATCH AND SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU TRULY RISK YOUR LIFE IN DESPERATION FOR WATER, NOT JUST FOR PRETEND

SURIJA!
WE NEED TO HURRY AND GO AFTER THEM WITH ANOTHER HORSE
HAS KENSOU GONE MAD!?
WE MUST QUICKLY INFORM THE GENERAL
YEN CAN RIDE THOUGH
IS THERE ANOTHER HORSE?
...UH, I'VE BEEN TRAMPLED BY A HORSE BEFORE BUT I'VE NEVER RIDDEN ONE
They have no
AFTER THEM! QUICKLY!
NEIGH
UH-
UHH...
THIS ONE? I'M BORROWING HIM
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH MY HORSE?
GENERAL
KENSOU HAS ALREADY STOLEN A HORSE. WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PURSUE WITH ANOTHER

GENERAL!
THUD!
KOGANE... WHAT'S WRONG
Neighhh
HIS HIP-BONE IS BROKEN
HANG IN THERE
SEIZE THAT MAN!
THROW HIM IN JAIL
HNNGHH
Neighh
UWAAH!
KYAA!
YEN! I'LL COME BACK FOR YOU LATER
FATHER..?

MY LEGS
I CAN'T MOVE MY LEGS
GENERAL!
CALL A DOCTOR QUICKLY
OH NO...
THIS IS SURELY THE ORACLE'S CURSE...
2 days
SHAKE
KYAAAAA!
IT'S NO GOOD. WE LOST THEM
SORRY. IT'S BECAUSE THE TWO OF US RODE ON HIM
NO...
THAT HORSE HATES ME!
I KNOW WHERE THEY'RE HEADED
KENSOU PLANS ON PERFORMING THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
AND HE INTENDS ON USING SURIJA...!

WHAT FOOLISHNESS
I TOLD HIM THAT SURIJA COULDN'T HELP HIM
I WASN'T ABLE TO SUCCEED
BUT SHE WILL
HE WANTS TO PERFORM THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL?
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO DROUGHT?
HUH...?
SURIJA POOR GIRL
AT ANY RATE, LET'S HURRY AND GO AFTER THEM
THIS PRINCESS RIGHT HERE WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO IT MY GOODNESS
WHOOOOSH...
THERE'S SOMETHING EVEN BETTER OVER THERE
WE'RE LUCKY TO SEE THAT AT THIS TIME OF THE SEASON
GYAAAAAAAA!!
A TALKING HEAD!!
GYAAAAA!
GYAAAAAA!
DON'T YOU HEAR THAT?
BUT OUR HORSE...
THAT THE MATING SONG OF THE SAND WHALE
PA-
I... I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING AT ALL

BUT IF WE ASK, HE SHOULD ALLOW US TO RIDE ON HIS BACK
IT'S RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR MATING SEASON, SO HE'S A TAD RESTLESS
GYAA AAA AAA A!
GYAA AAAA AAA!
I'M FINE WHAT ABOUT SURIOA?
YEN YOU OKAY?
IF HE'S AN OGRE ALL THE MORE REASON TO BE ON YOUR GUARD. DO NOT LET HIM ESCAPE
SO THAT'S WHY THE HORSE WAS SO SPOOKED
THAT MAN ISN'T HUMAN, HE'S AN OGRE
THIS GUY IS A DEADLY CRIMINAL. ON TOP OF MURDERING THE ORACLE OF THE EAST, HE GRAVELY INJURED THE GENERAL DURING HIS ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE
HE IS TO BE EXECUTED AT THE BREAK OF DAWN, SO COME WATCH
ARE YOU HIS FRIENDS!? THEN YOU WILL ALL SUFFER THE SAME PUNISHMENT!
WE'RE JUST BY-STANDERS PASSING BY...
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE!?
DON'T WORRY JINGHUA AND THE ORACLE ARE GOING AFTER THEM
WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU OUT NOW

IS THAT SO
YEN!
WHAT DO WE DO? THE SUN WILL BE RISING AT ANY MOMENT
BUT DOES AN OGRE DIE FROM BEING BE-HEADED?
SURIJA!
DAMMIT!
CLOP CLOP
CLOP CLOP
TAKE A SLIGHT STEP BACK
HUH?
I'LL OPEN A PATH MOVE BACK
UWAAAH!
CRASH!

I'M FINE WITH HUMANS RIDING ON ME, BUT ANOTHER OGRE FEELS, NNGHH- EMBARRASSING
YES I AM ALSO A WOMAN
ARE YOU AN OGRE?
FOR WHAT REASON ?
WE DISGUISED OURSELVES AS HORSES TO JOIN THEIR QUEST TO SUIKO
TO STOP THAT GIRL!
I..
I AM SORRY ABOUT EARLIER
Kaguna went wild
SHE ACCIDENTALLY GOT FLUSTERED...
AS AN APOLOGY I'LL HELP YOU OUT SO PLEASE CLIMB ON
WE DESPISE MONAIN
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S JUST A SPOILT BRAT
THAT GIRL POSSESSES THE ABILITY TO SUCCEED AT THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
THAT GIRL ISN'T VERY SMART, SO IT WAS FAIRLY EASY
HER GUARDIAN, KENSOU WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE TAKEN EITHER ONE OF US
DIDN'T THAT HAVE JUST THE OPPOSITE EFFECT?
THEY DEFILE THE DESERT WITH THEIR CONSTANT FIGHTING!
THAT DESPICABLE COUNTRY DOESN'T DESERVE SUIKO'S PURE AND UNTAINTED WATERS

WHERE ARE WE GOING?
LEAVE IT TO ME. WE'RE GOING TO BRING SURIJA BACK RIGHT?
KENSOU OFTEN SPOKE OF THIS PLACE
"COUGH"
SAND IS GETTING IN MY EYES...!
BUT WE'RE MOVING VERY QUICKLY
IS THIS WHAT QUICK-SAND REALLY IS?
IT'S MONRIN!
"SNIFF SNIFF."
I DON'T SMELL SURIJA'S SCENT
PRIN-CESS,
KENSOU WAS AN EX-SLAVE
SO SHOULD-N'T HE DETEST MONRIN?

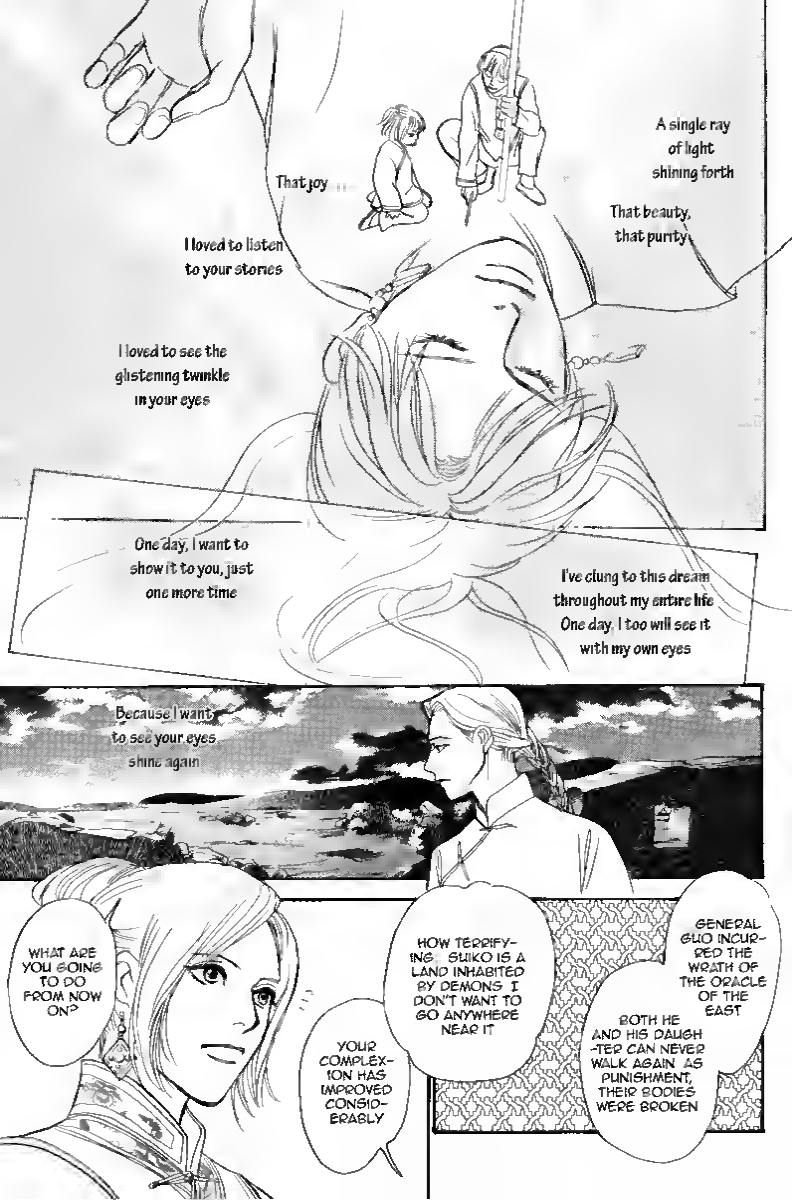
KENSOU'S HOMELAND
THERE?
NOBODY LIVES THERE ANYMORE
IF SO, THIS SHOULDN'T BE THE SPOT
BUT...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU OR THIS LAND
NO, I CAN'T!
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHY, BUT I'M SURE THAT I'LL FAIL
JUST DO IT!
PUT THESE SHOES ON!
THAT'S RIGHT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS, RIGHT? THE RUINS OF A TOWN THAT DARED TO INCUR KAHAKU'S WRATH
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I'VE MET THAT'S SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
YES YOU CAN!
I CAN'T

THE HOSTAGES SUFFERED AND DIED HORRIBLE DEATHS WHILE WAITING FOR WATER TO COME
AND WHEN THE RITUALS FAILED MONRIN IMMEDIATELY ABANDONED OUR TOWN AND MOVED ON
I'M BEGGING YOU. DO IT
THE WAY WE DID IT WAS COMPLETELY WRONG!
THAT'S WHY ALL OF THE HOSTAGES, ALL OF THE WOMEN WHO TRIED TO PERFORM THE RITUAL, EVERYONE DIED FUTILE DEATHS
PERFORM THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL! FOR THE SAKE OF THOSE WHO DIED!
I CAN'T.
THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL IS DONE FOR THE SAKE OF THE LIVING
KOGANE!
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HERE
OH, MY
SHIROGANE!
SURIJA!

...KENSOU SHOULD JUST DO THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL HIMSELF
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A MAN?
EUSH WARRIORS ARE ALL BRAWN AND NO BRAINS
There they go
Oh my
WHAT'S THAT?
YEN!
LWAAAAH IT'S A GIANT WHALE
CLANG!
WHAT THE HELL IS ORGANIC WATER!?
NO!
I... I WANTED TO DO IT FOR YOU!
IT DISGUSTS ME WATCHING HIS RICH DAUGHTER PLAY PRE-TEND
YOU'RE GUO'S DAUGHTER! THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN DO IT!
I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
KENSOU! STOP IT!

SURIJA
I SAID NO SUCH THING!
EVERY-ONE DIED THE WATER PRAYER RITUALS WERE A FAILURE!
AS IF FATHER UN-DERSTOOD ANYTHING ABOUT THE TASTE OF WATER!
YOU ALWAYS TOLD ME WHEN I WAS A CHILD DIDN'T YOU?
TOLD YOU WHAT?
YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU SAW THE WATER PRAYER RITUALS SUCCEED YOU TOLD ME TIME AND TIME AGAIN
SHIT

SLIDE
The horizon
Like a white
cloth fluttering,
dancing
AH...
Remember...
AAAAAHHHHHH!!


That joy ...
A single ray of light shining forth
That beauty, that purity
I loved to listen to your stories
I loved to see the glistening twinkle in your eyes
One day, I want to show it to you, just one more time
I've clung to this dream throughout my entire life
One day, I too will see it with my own eyes
Because I want to see your eyes shine again
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FROM NOW ON?
YOUR COMPLEXION HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY
HOW TERRIFYING. SUIKO IS A LAND INHABITED BY DEMONS. I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE NEAR IT
GENERAL GUO INCURRED THE WRATH OF THE ORACLE OF THE EAST
BOTH HE AND HIS DAUGHTER CAN NEVER WALK AGAIN AS PUNISHMENT, THEIR BODIES WERE BROKEN

EVEN IF I RETURNED TO MONRIN, I CAN'T PERFORM WATER PRAYER RITUALS ANYMORE WITH THIS WOODEN LEG,
AND I CAN'T BECOME A BRIDE ANYMORE EITHER
I'M JUST A WOMAN WHO FAILED THE WATER PRAYER RITUAL
I'LL STAY HERE AND WAIT FOR KENSOU
IF I REMAIN HERE, KENSOU WILL DEFINITELY APPEAR ONE DAY
WHEN I SAW KENSOU'S HOMELAND, I HAD A THOUGHT
AH, MAYBE MY MOTHER ALSO CAME FROM A PLACE LIKE THAT..
I'M SURE OF IT
WHAT'S WRONG KID? WHERE'D YOUR PARENTS GO?
AN ABANDONED KID IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
THAT'S NO GOOD
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU HERE.
I'M HEADING TO SUIKO..
YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME?

The Lost Shore · End